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Inventors: Guyre et al.
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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (new): A method for detecting an early signaling event in an inflammatory response cascade in a patient comprising:

a) contacting a plasma sample obtained from a patient known to have or suspected of having been exposed to an inflammatory stimulus with a CD163 capture antibody thereby forming a soluble CD163-capture antibody complex;

b) contacting the soluble CD163-capture antibody complex with a CD163 detection antibody so that the CD163 detection antibody binds to the soluble CD163-capture antibody complex;

c) detecting the presence of the CD163 detection antibody bound to the soluble CD163-capture antibody complex; and

d) determining whether there is a detectable elevation in the level of *in vivo* shed, soluble CD163 in response to the inflammatory stimulus indicative of an early signaling event in the inflammatory response cascade in the patient.

Claim 12 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein the CD163 capture antibody is MAC2-158 or MAC2-48.